

BRICKENDON

Newsletter

Number 86

www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk December 2007/January 2008

CHRISTMAS IS A-COMING!

It seems no time at all since we were taking down last year's Christmas decorations in the hall, yet here we are putting them up again ready for the children's Christmas party and our Christmas lunch - two of the most popular social events in Brickendon Liberty (and we assure you OUR Christmas tree is going to be the RIGHT WAY UP!) This is just the start, as celebrations of our various clubs will no doubt continue for the next few weeks. We'll be well into the new year by the time you receive the next newsletter so everyone on the parish council and Fanshaws social committee wishes you all

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND PEACE AND GOOD HEALTH IN THE NEW YEAR!

KIDS' PARTY TIME

Saturday 8th December 3-5pm
in the parish hall on the Green.

All kids up to 8 years old and living in the parish are welcome to come along for a great afternoon. **Silly Billy Blue Hat** on his silly little bike will be there to keep you entertained, there'll be lots of yummy food and games and, although he should be at home wrapping up presents for Christmas day, Father Christmas has agreed to come along with a sack full of presents for you! All for free!

Heather Ross needs to know NOW exactly who's coming and their ages, so that Father Christmas can find suitable presents - so don't leave it until the last moment.

Ring her on 666336

PS: Thanks to Cllr. William Ashley, we have been given a grant of £200 by EHDC towards the cost of the party!

Tasteful Christmas gifts!

Liz Philips invites you to come along on 5th December from 9.15am-5.30pm to Amber House at Monks Green, Hertford

Solve all your Christmas gift problems and at the same time help **Pinewood Special Needs School!**

Come and be dazzled by a tasteful array of jewellery, flower arrangements, ceramics, clothes and so on.

At the same time enjoy a day of pampering including - beauty demonstrations, reflexology, head massage, a nail bar and flower arranging.

Tea, coffee and cake available throughout the day with wine and cheese at lunchtime!

Start the festive season on the right note with all your present problems resolved at Amber House!

Further details 01992 511262

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Sunday 9th December 12.30 for 1pm

Possibly the jolliest social occasion of the year! Probably as a result of the mulled wine, the gourmet food, the entertainment (by Your Very Own Selves) and general friendly ambience. So if you haven't booked your place yet get in touch with Mike King on 511405 - now! He may still have a few seats left.

There's a raffle too - *and MEN, it has become a tradition that you wash up, so don't forget your pinnies!*

Services in the Chapel of the Holy Cross and St Alban
Brickendon Lane

2 December 11am Parish Communion

16 December 11am Family Service

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

23 December 3pm Candlelit Carol Service

25 December 9.30am Family Communion

30 December 10.15am Group Communion
2008

6 January 11am Parish Communion

20 January 11am Family Service

Rector: Rev Canon Pauline Higham 01707 875940

Services are usually held monthly on 1st & 3rd Sundays

Brickendon Book Club

The book being discussed on 6th December is Scott Fitzgerald's *Tender is the Night*. And on 3rd January *The Lovely Bones* by Alice Sebold. We can supply a library copy of most books we read which can be kept for six weeks. If you've read any of the books chosen - or there's a book you'd like to recommend - then do come along!

For details ring Sally Chandler on 01992 479315.

Report of the Parish Council meeting of 22 November

It was agreed, having been raised by a member of the public, that the PC would support The Farmer's Boy's request for support from the Council for bottle, and cardboard banks for use by the pub and the public in its car park.

Well Green Common

A Court hearing, to consider the removal of fencing, illegally erected in November 2003, took place on the day of the PC meeting. The Court ruled that the remaining fencing, gates, etc were to be removed and all repairs undertaken to return the common to its original condition within 28 days.

Brickendon Green

Is now under new ownership but the leasing agreement whereby the PC pays a token £1 pa for its use continues. Future responsibility for the lamp post near the car park has yet to be determined.

Planning decisions

No objections by PC

14 Highfield Farm, Mangrove Lane Retrospective application for fence. (*Later refused by EHDS*)

Well Cottage, 13 Brickendon Lane Single storey side extension to house boiler.

Objection by PC

Ettridge Farm, Pembridge Lane. Conversion of cart shed to 2 bed room dwelling, too close to road, inappropriate change of use, out of sympathy with surroundings.

Planning permission granted by EHDC

East Herts Equestrian Centre, Elbow Lane single storey building for machinery and temporary animal housing.

The Lodge, Mangrove Lane for demolition of same.

The Forge, Mangrove Lane. Single storey rear extension and basement, car port, new access.

Kindersfield, Brickendon Lane. No breach of control had been observed by EHDC.

Planning permission refused by EHDC

Tun Abdul Razak Research Centre (Malaysian Rubber Company at Brickendonbury, Brickendon Lane.

The application to provide training facilities for Malaysian sportspeople was refused by EHDS due partly to strong objections from the PC and residents on the site.

Highways

A number of Highways issues covering the whole parish and ranging from damaged kerbs, missing and damaged nameplates and road signs, blocked gulleys and so on had been raised by Councillor Kotting with Herts Highways. In some cases orders have been raised but few timescales which are subject to available funding.

Stop Stansted Expansion

Mixed messages came from Parish Councillors when asked to make a donation towards the above campaign. Two voted for and three against. Last year £100 was sent as a gesture of support. Those voting against considered it too small an amount to make any difference, took a vote and decided not to make a donation at all. In making the decision they took into consideration the convenience of an additional runway for those travelling from Brickendon, and were of the firm opinion that the extension would go ahead anyway.

**Next Parish Council meeting
7.30pm Thursday 24th January 2008**

'Looking to the future'

The above 'glossy' publication which brings together all the information gathered from the questionnaire (which we are pleased to say most residents of Brickendon took the time to complete and return) and which details actions to be taken, should be available mid-January for distribution with your February/March newsletter.

Want up-to-date information about EHDC PLANNING DECISIONS?

No problem (says Mr Modesty who set up a link for us with East Herts District Council's website!).

Visit the Parish Council page on www.brickendon-liberty.org.uk where you can keep track of planning applications in the parish. So if you have a computer you needn't rely on the Newsletter to keep you informed.

East of England Plan

You may recall the outcry in Brickendon over three years ago when the The East of England Regional Assembly (EERA), an undemocratic body appointed by the government, published a blueprint for the future development of five counties in the East of England including Hertfordshire. Seventy people attended a meeting in the village hall to add their protest to thousands of others including bodies such as East Herts District Council and Herts County Council. The plan, to be implemented by 2021, contains 120 different policies - including a requirement for 20,800 new homes in East Herts. At one point even EERA withdrew its support. Harlow North, which would be badly affected in many ways has continued to protest loudly with massive support. Amendments have been made to the original proposals and a public enquiry held. The Draft Plan is still being modified. currently to meet a European habitats directive.

The national press rarely comments on it these days.

BUT IT HAS NOT GONE AWAY. Already it affects the planning process and until it impacts upon Brickendon you may not even been aware of the drip-drip of its effect.

Hopefully our Parish Council will be keeping it in its sights.

THE INSTITUTE OF THE MOTOR INDUSTRY (IMI) NEWS

The IMI is a major employer in the parish and has always been very generous and supportive of Brickendon events - more recently with the Parish Plan and the Fete.

It is a professional body, representing 25,000 skilled and experienced individuals from every sector of the automotive retail industry. It is also the leading awarding body for qualifications in the automotive sector and was recently awarded the accolade of being appointed a **Sector Skills Council**, one of only 25 in the country, each of which covers a specific sector of industry involving 85% of the UK workforce. It is licensed by the Secretary of State for Education and Skills, which means that it is able to offer services to anyone who wants to pursue a career or who already works in the industry but wishes to improve their skills .

It's a new challenge for the IMI which has already recruited staff from the newly merged company *Automotive Skills* and is now advertising locally to fill further staff vacancies.

For further details contact: www.motor.org.uk

Brickendon & District Gardening Club

Members of the gardening club are going to be well occupied over the next few months. On 12th December yet another Christmas celebration takes place, no doubt following the tradition of testing our knowledge of plants and so on with a quiz or two. Of course, one's mind focuses much better after a glass of wine and a wonderful buffet supper!

On 9th January, Brian Creasey, the owner of Eastern Lodge (near Bishops Stortford) famed for its 23 acres of beautiful and romantic restored gardens, is coming along to talk to us not only about the restoration of the gardens but also about the Maynard family who originated them and the house.

(Maybe a visit there will even follow in the summer!)

Further details from Vickey Jackson tel: 01992 511303

Brickendon Petanque/Boules Club

The Club will be holding its 3rd AGM in Fanshaws Room at 7pm on Tuesday 11th December, then after the business of the year has been resolved, the accounts balanced, and the Captain has urged us on to better things, members will repair to the Farmer's Boy pub to celebrate past and future wins and the start of the festive season with a slap up Christmas dinner!

Play continues throughout the winter every Tuesday evening from 5 until 8pm and every other Sunday morning from 9.30-noon - see diary on back page for dates. We're currently trying to find next year's champion players with a knockout competition - wonder who they'll be.

For further details see our

website:<http://www.brickendonboules.org.uk>

or ring John Lambie on 01992 511551

WOULD A COMPUTER HELP YOU?

The Arthur Rank Centre (ARC) is a partner with the Government Disposal Services Agency in making high quality, fully refurbished ex-government computer equipment available at very competitive prices to anyone working in, with or for rural communities. The price includes VAT, warranty and software, and delivery is free. ARC asks for a donation of £30 per sale to support this not-for-profit scheme.

Visit the ARC website at

[http://www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk/projects/](http://www.arthurrankcentre.org.uk/projects/computers)

computers for rural people

or telephone: 024 7685 3067

SALT BINS

Ever helpful Hertford Highways has just sent out this useful piece of information. Well, one has to think hard about just how useful it is to us.

"Feel free to salt roads and footways (apart from Fanshaws Lane we only have one short stretch with no bin anywhere near it), using council-supplied salt bins (we only have two bins in the parish, -when we asked for more a year or so ago we didn't get them because they doubted that we could raise the manpower to use them).

Brickendon Lane gets salted because it's on a bus route -not sure about Wormley West End and Mangrove Lane.

Nevertheless the equivalent of 1,500 miles is covered - with one salting trip covering nearly half of Hertfordshire's entire road network! So be grateful for that.

Countryside Management Services (CMS)

...reminds us that we can enjoy the fresh air, meet others with similar interests, keep fit and help with conservation work in the woods by becoming a wood warden.

Members meet every fortnight during winter months to keep the glades open for woodland flowers, butterflies and birds. They also check ponds and paths and make sure the area remains safe and welcoming to visitors. Many woodwardens have helped for years - but new faces are always welcome.

Meanwhile, you can give a hand with coppicing in Bencroft Wood on 2nd December and also with deer basket making in the glades at Broxbourne Wood on Sunday 16th December..with festive food round the fire.

Details from CMS: tel: 01462 459395

or email: northeast.cms@hertscc.gov.uk

INTERNET HOAXES AND SCAMS

Before forwarding hoaxes and scams, perhaps forwarded to you by a friend trying to be helpful, *make sure it is genuine* by checking with the **PhonepayPlus** website.

Friends of the Pinetum, Bayfordbury

The Clinton-Baker Pinetum at Bayfordbury is home to a famous collection of over 150 conifers from all over the world, planted mainly in Victorian and Edwardian times by the Clinton-Baker family. Further species are now being planted to strengthen this national reference collection. Volunteers meet one Saturday a month and every Wednesday, clearing undergrowth, planting new species, restoring features and so on.

New faces are always welcome.

Details from Colin Metherell 01582 713810

Celtic Harmony Camp

You really don't need your own garden if you live in Brickendon, there are so many organisations needing help. Celtic Camp offers volunteers something entirely different, from feeding goats to repairing roundhouses as well as clearing brambles etc. Volunteers are welcomed on Mondays and Thursdays and the Archery Club continues to meet on Saturday and Sunday mornings 9.30am-1.30pm

For details telephone Luca on 01438 718543

Young countrysiders' club

Formerly The Young Farmers club. You don't have to be a young farmer to join in but you do have to be between 10-16 years old. The Club has been revived by Heather Peters of Edwards Green Farm, Chris Parkins and Julia Camp of Jepps Farm.

It meets every two weeks at Three Lakes function room, Westmill Farm (lifts can be arranged). Activities this year have included nature walks, craft evenings, rounders on Brickendon Green, visits to farms, a barbecue, swimming, and a fireworks party at Sutes Farm. Finally on 13th December there's a Christmas party.

So something for everyone. If you want to join in the fun or find out more, telephone

Heather on 07789231639 or Julia on 01992 462729

KK Holistic Therapies

Chrissie Stevens, from Fanshaws Lane, is a well qualified holistic therapist providing stress reducing treatment in your own home, including Indian head massage, tension relief massage, reiki therapy, and creative visualisation therapy.

Further details from Chrissy on 01992 511495 or 07927736763

TABLE TENNIS

It's a bit of healthy indoor exercise, it's warm and friendly! Come along any Tuesday evening from 8-10pm and have a bit of fun playing table tennis. Everyone's welcome even if their only experience is playing on holiday.

Further details from Marion Todd 511497

Poppy Day

On behalf of The British Legion, Athene would like particularly to thank Mike King, Julia Skinner, Maureen Reid and Tim Barnard who made door-to-door collections on behalf of the Legion raising £219.58.

Thanks also to those who gave so generously

FANSHAWS ROOM

(the parish hall on Brickendon Green)

The hall is available for hire for parties, celebrations etc. and can seat up to fifty people for a sit down meal. From 1st January 2008 the cost will be £6 an hour to residents of the parish and £7 for non-residents. The car park opposite can accommodate up to fifteen cars.

Equipment such as chairs, tables, crockery and cutlery is also available to hire for outside use at reasonable rates.

To book and for details please contact Margaret Robertson on 01992 511582

TENNIS COURTS

Please remember, the courts are closed until the Spring for safety reasons. During this time we hope to refurbish the surface and repair the fencing.

PARTIALLY SIGHTED?

Would you like a copy of the newsletter twice as large as this one? Phone Beryl on 511617

Music in the Chapel

Not only a delightful evening of music but it raised over £550 for the chapel. Our thanks to all who participated and helped.

(The Kuhlau flute quartet, which took part, is next helping to raise funds for abandoned children and orphans in Romania and Zimbabwe, at 7.30pm on 3rd December in the large hall, Christ Church, Little Heath, tickets £7.50. Details 01707 655222 or 01707 657703)

ELECTRICITY DISRUPTIONS!

The IMI wishes to thank residents for their patience and understanding for any inconvenience caused by the disruption to the electricity supply in Brickendon Village recently and by roadworks in Fanshaws Lane.

This was due to cables being laid to Fanshaws.

The work has now been completed.

THAMES WATER

Has also completed its works in Back Lane off Fanshaws Lane where it has been installing a reed bed. Local residents were invited to go along to see and hear how it will help the local environment.

So hopefully we have seen an end to the stream of large lorries traversing up and down Brickendon Lane and Fanshaws Lane, day and night over the last few months.

WASHING MACHINE NEEDS NEW HOME

Nearly new, Hotpoint WMA22, 1200 spin with variable spin speed, silk/wool programme, rinse hold, energy save and super rinse options - offered FREE by someone recently moved into the village bringing own washing machine - shame to dump it!

Contact Kate on 01992 511035

CHAIRS, CHAIRS and MORE CHAIRS

As you know we have replaced our heavy wooden chairs with lightweight stackable ones. We would like the old ones to go to a deserving home. Most need the back recovering but seats are good and they are otherwise sturdy. If you have any suggestions please contact Beryl on 01992 511617 URGENTLY!

DIARY DATES

December 2007

4,18	5.30-8pm	Boules/petanque
6	8pm	Book club
8	3-5pm	Children's Party
9 & 23	9.30-noon	Boules/petanque
9	12.30 for 1pm	Parish Christmas lunch
11	1.45-2.15pm	Mobile library on Green
11	6.30pm	Boules club AGM/Dinner
12	7.30pm	Gardening Club Xmas party
14	8pm	Bayford Jazz Club
16	10am-4pm	Broxbourne Woods coppicing
20	7.45pm	Whist Drive and Party
21	1.45pm	Bayford School carol service St Mary's Church, Bayford

January 2008

3	8pm	Book Club
6,20	9.30-noon	Boules/petanque
8	1.45-2.15pm	Mobile library on Green
8,15,22,29	5pm	Boules/Petanque
9	7.30pm	Gardening Club
11	8pm	Bayford Jazz Club
13	10.30am	Village Walk
17	7.45pm	Whist Drive
24	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting

Please send information for the Feb/Mar 2008 issue by 25th January to: Beryl Scott Smith, Editor, Hill Cottage, 30 Brickendon Green, SG13 8PB. Tel:01992 511617.
email: beryl.scottsmith@lineone.net

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